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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/661,912	09/14/2000	Saeed Azimi	MP0043	9508

23624 7590 04/17/2003

MARVELL SEMICONDUCTOR, INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
700 FIRST AVENUE, MS# 509
SUNNYVALE, CA 94089

EXAMINER

KING, JUSTIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2181

DATE MAILED: 04/17/2003

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/661,912

Applicant(s)

AZIMI, SAEED

Examiner

Justin I. King

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-75 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-75 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 September 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
2. Figures 3 and 4 are objected. Figures 3 and 4's header should have been removed.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-75 are objected. Claim 1's preamble cites "between first and second hardware components". Examiner recommends changing "between first and second hardware components" to "between a first and a second hardware components". Claims 6, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31, 36, 41, 46, 51, 56, 61, 66, and 71's preambles recite same statement. The associated dependent claims are objected because they incorporate the parent claims' preambles. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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5. Claims 1-75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the control" in claim 1's lines 6 and 10. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Claims 6, 11, 16, 21, 26, 31, 36, 41, 46, 51, 56, 61, 66, and 71 recite the same limitations. The associated dependent claims are rejected because they incorporate the parent claims' limitations.

6. Claims 11 and 28 recite the limitation "a buffer" in claim 11's lines 21-22 and claim 28's last line. There is sufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Examiner recommends changing "a buffer" to "the buffer".

Allowable Subject Matter

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Referring to claims 1, 16, 31, 46, and 61: A latency-independent interface, protocol, or method between a first and a second hardware components comprises the circuits or means of a data gate circuit that transmits a data gate signal, and a data circuit that transmits or receives data under the control of the data gate signal, and a media gate circuit that transmits a media gate signal, and a mode selection circuit that transmits mode selection information under the control of the media gate signal, and a buffer attention circuit that receives a buffer attention signal.

Referring to claims 2-5, 17-20, 32-35, 47-50, and 62-65: Claims are allowed because they incorporate the parent claims' allowable subject matter.

Referring to claims 6, 21, 36, 51, and 66: A latency-independent interface, protocol, or method between a first and a second hardware components, comprises the circuits or means of a data gate circuit that receives a data gate signal, a data circuit that transmits or receives data under the control of the data gate signal, and a media gate circuit that receives a media gate signal, and a mode selection circuit that receives mode selection information under the control of the media gate signal, and a buffer attention circuit that transmits a buffer attention signal.

Referring to claims 7-10, 22-25, 37-40, 52-55, and 67-70: Claims are allowed because they incorporate the parent claims' allowable subject matter.

Referring to claims 11, 26, 41, 56, and 71: A latency-independent interface, protocol, or method between a first and second hardware components, comprises the circuits or means of a first data gate circuit that transmits a data gate signal, a first data circuit that transmits or receives data under the control of the data gate signal, a first media gate circuit that transmits a media gate signal, a first mode selection circuit that transmits mode selection information under the control of the media gate signal, a first buffer attention circuit that receives a buffer attention signal, a second data gate circuit that receives the data gate signal, a second data circuit that transmits or receives data under the control of the data gate signal, a second media gate circuit that receives the media gate signal, a second mode selection circuit that receives mode selection information under the control of the media gate signal, and a second buffer attention circuit that transmits the buffer attention signal.

Referring to claims 12-15, 27-30, 42-45, 57-60, and 72-75: Claims are allowed because they incorporate the parent claims' allowable subject matter.

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8. Claims 1-75 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-15, 17-20, 22-25, 27-30, 32-35, 37-40, 42-45, 47-50, 52-55, 57-60, 62-65, 67-70, and 72-75 are also objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 5,444,857 to Rowland.

U.S. Patent No. 6,272,589 to Aoki.

U.S. Patent No. 5,228,129 to Bryant et al..

U.S. Patent No. 5,568,470 to Ben-Num et al..

U.S. Patent No. 5,555,380 to Suzuki.

U.S. Patent No. 5,613,136 to Casavant et al..

U.S. Patents No. 5,564,027 and 5,652,848 to Bui et al..

U.S. Patent No. 5,758,191 to Kasebayashi et al..

U.S. Patent No. 5,694,614 to Bennett.

U.S. Patent No. 4,779,196 to Manga.

"The Indispensable PC Hardware Book" by Hans-Peter Messmer.

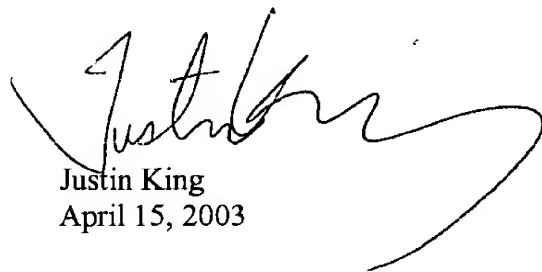
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10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin King whose telephone number is (703) 305-4571.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephones are unsuccessfully, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Reinhart can be reached at (703) 308-3110.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose number is (703)-306-5631.



Justin King
April 15, 2003



GOPAL C. RAY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2100